



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/653,437	09/01/2000	Jiuzhi Xue	57-00	5513

23713 7590 03/31/2003

GREENLEE WINNER AND SULLIVAN P C
5370 MANHATTAN CIRCLE
SUITE 201
BOULDER, CO 80303.

EXAMINER

HON, SOW FUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1772

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2003

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/653,437	XUE ET AL.	
	Examiner Sow-Fun Hon	Art Unit 1772	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-51 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-41, drawn to a liquid crystal device, classified in class 428, subclass 1.1.
 - II. Claims 42-51, drawn to a method, classified in class 356, subclass 369.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions I and II are unrelated. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are a liquid crystal device with a liquid crystal having the deVries smectic A phase, and a method of detecting the deVries smectic A phase in a liquid crystal. A liquid crystal having the deVries smectic A phase is used in other products such as fiberoptic waveguide modulators.
3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
4. Upon election of Group I, further restriction/election of species is required.
5. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species in Group I of the claimed invention:

Species	Claims	Chemical group in liquid crystal
1	3, 28	dehydronaphthalene core
2	4, 27	napthalene core
3	5	NOT napthalene core
4	6, 29, 31	phenyl pyrimidine core
5	6, 29	phenyl benzoate core
6	6, 30	biphenyl benzoate core
7	6, 29	biphenyl core
8	7	swallow tail chiral tail
9	8,30	terminal fluorocarbon (fluorinated terminal) group chiral tail
10	9	-COO-CH*(A)-(CH ₂) _m OC _n H _{2n+1} chiral tail
11	12	-COOCH*(A)-R chiral tail
12	13	siloxane group chiral nonracemic
13	16, 32, 34	W399
14	16, 32, 34	W415
15	19, 35	8-1
16	21, 37	8-2

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1,25 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

6. A telephone call was made to Susan Doughty on 01/03/03 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made. A written restriction was requested.

Art Unit: 1772

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

7. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sow-Fun Hon whose telephone number is (703)308-3265. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

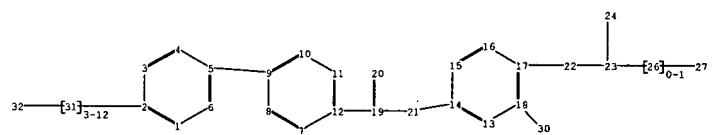
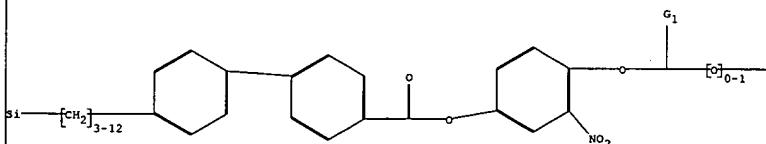
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Pyon, can be reached on (703)308-4251. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0661.

8H
Sow-Fun Hon
3/27/03


HAROLD PYON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
3/27/03

3/27/03



chain nodes :

19 20 21 22 23 24 26 27 30 31 32

ring nodes :

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

chain bonds :

2-31 5-9 12-19 14-21 17-22 18-30 19-20 19-21 22-23 23-24 23-26 26-27 31-32

ring bonds :

1-2 1-6 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-6 7-8 7-12 8-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 13-14 13-18 14-15
15-16 16-17 17-18

exact/norm bonds :

14-21 17-22 19-20 19-21 22-23 23-24 23-26 26-27

exact bonds :

2-31 5-9 12-19 18-30 31-32

normalized bonds :

1-2 1-6 2-3 3-4 4-5 5-6 7-8 7-12 8-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 13-14 13-18 14-15
15-16 16-17 17-18

G1:F,CH3,Et,CF2,CF3

Match level :

1:Atom 2:Atom 3:Atom 4:Atom 5:Atom 6:Atom 7:Atom 8:Atom 9:Atom 10:Atom 11:Atom
12:Atom 13:Atom 14:Atom 15:Atom 16:Atom 17:Atom 18:Atom 19:CLASS 20:CLASS
21:CLASS 22:CLASS 23:CLASS 24:CLASS 26:CLASS 27:CLASS 30:CLASS 31:CLASS 32:CLASS

L1 STRUCTURE UPLOADED

=> s 11
SAMPLE SEARCH INITIATED 16:47:39 FILE 'REGISTRY'
SAMPLE SCREEN SEARCH COMPLETED - 0 TO ITERATE

100.0% PROCESSED 0 ITERATIONS 0 ANSWERS
SEARCH TIME: 00.00.01

FULL FILE PROJECTIONS: ONLINE **COMPLETE**
BATCH **COMPLETE**
PROJECTED ITERATIONS: 0 TO 0
PROJECTED ANSWERS: 0 TO 0

L2 0 SEA SSS SAM L1

=> s 11 ful
FULL SEARCH INITIATED 16:48:06 FILE 'REGISTRY'
FULL SCREEN SEARCH COMPLETED - 0 TO ITERATE

100.0% PROCESSED 0 ITERATIONS 0 ANSWERS
SEARCH TIME: 00.00.01

L3 0 SEA SSS FUL L1